



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE *110th* CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

*Congratulating Dr. Scott Kennedy for Receiving
the El-Hibri Peace Education Prize*

September 27, 2008

House of Representatives

The Honorable Sam Farr
of California

Madam Speaker, I am proud today to rise to pay tribute to Dr. Scott Kennedy, a former mayor of Santa Cruz, California. Dr. Kennedy has been named the 2008 recipient of the El-Hibri Charitable Peace Education Prize – which rightly recognizes his tireless, selfless and fearless promotion of peace and social justice in the Middle East and around the world.

It is with great pleasure that I call attention to Dr. Scott Kennedy's work to bring peace to the world over the course of his lifetime. He has been a Peace Educator for 40 years and was instrumental in pioneering educational delegations to conflict zones, now a widely practiced form of peace education. Scott has personally led more than three dozen delegations to the Middle East since 1979. He also helped establish Witness for Peace, which brought thousands of U.S. citizens to Nicaragua on short educational delegations.

Scott Kennedy co-founded the Resource Center for Nonviolence in Santa Cruz, California which is one of the most active community-based peace education centers in the nation. The Center has been host to world renowned international speakers, workshops, and programs focusing on the need for peaceful and just resolution of conflicts both locally and globally, and I have been privileged to be a participant in these activities.

Scott has actively served on the board of many organizations that teach and exemplify peace and empowerment, including the Fellowship of Reconciliation, Middle East Witness, Refuser Solidarity Network, Middle East Advisory Committee of the American Friends Service Committee, Isla Vista Youth Project, Thomas Merton Unity (Nonviolence) Center, the Isla Vista People's Life Fund, California Youth Advocate Program, National Youth Advocate Program, and the Interfaith Peace-Builders.

Madam Speaker, true men of peace grace generations and, in my lifetime, I have witnessed Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, and Nelson Mandela. I am proud to commend Scott Kennedy as a true man of peace, and I am proud to call him my friend.